

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

FILE OPR  
Executive Registry  
1017-75

16 JUN 1975

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The enclosed memorandum, "The Arab World in the 1980s," is a brief but comprehensive synopsis of the conclusions and arguments drawn from a much larger study (also enclosed) of the same title done in CIA's Office of Political Research.

As you know, this is an area of great complexity, and its future is far from certain. This memorandum, nonetheless, attempts to make long-term projections of social and political trends within the Middle East, emphasizing factors common to the whole area and the role of the more important Arab states, particularly Saudi Arabia and Egypt. Of the many contingencies which will affect the course of events in the Middle East, attention is given to the Arab-Israeli dispute and to relations between the Arab oil producing countries and their principal customers.

This work is, of course, interpretative, but it covers areas and subjects which will be of major interest to the US for many years. I hope it will illuminate key issues in the future and perhaps prompt suggestions for our further study.

Respectfully,

/s/ W. E. Colby

W. E. Colby  
Director

Enclosures:

1. "The Arab World in the 1980s" (Memorandum)
2. OPR-305, May 1975, same subject



Letter to The President from the DCI Transmitting  
"The Arab World in the 1980s"

CONCUR:

[Redacted Signature]

Deputy Director for Intelligence

13 JUN 1975

Date

Distribution:

Orig - Addressee (w/atts)

1 - DDCI

1 - ER

1 - DDI

2 - OPR

DDI/OPR:LJLapham:jpr/[Redacted] (13 June 1975)

Identical letters sent to:

The Vice-President /s/ Bill 16 JUN 1975

Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs /s/ Bill 16 JUN 1975

Secretary of Defense /s/ Bill 16 JUN 1975

Under Secretary for Political Affairs /s/ Bill 16 JUN 1975

Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern & South Asian Affairs /s/ Bill 16 JUN 1975

ER

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175-6583

29 May 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: The DCI

Bill,

You asked for this look at the Arab World in the 1980s quite some time ago. This study may be a bit more than you bargained for, but we are dealing here with an enormously complex part of our globe. For those with the time and interest, we have provided some basic background analysis (Annexes A & B) which is useful to an appreciation of the judgments set forth in Sections III & IV.

Because of its length, we decided to experiment with a new art form which we have had in mind for studies of this kind. Our consumers in the policy community will receive an overview of the study which in a sense abstracts the major themes and arguments of the study itself. We hope in this way to reach some of our key consumers who might not have the time to cope with our basic document. We are providing you a copy of this overview which is not otherwise being disseminated in the intelligence community.

LEWIS J. LAPHAM

Director, Political Research

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DCI/DDCI

Routing Slip

DDI-570-75

DDI

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TO:

		ACTION	INFO.			ACTION	INFO.
1	DCI			11	LC		
2	DDCI			12	IG		
3	S/MC			13	Compt		
4	DDS&T			14	Asst/DCI		
5	DDI	✓	gmp	15	AO/DCI		
6	DDM&S			16	Ex/Sec		
7	DDO			17			
8	D/DCI/IC			18		✓	
9	D/DCI/NIO			19			
10	GC			20			

SUSPENSE \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks: A fine study - and a most useful one, I think -

Re art form - I would think a 1-2 page covering letter from me to the Pres, VP, HAK, IRS, Sisco + Atherton (+ others?) would be more apt to get their personal attention to the Summary at least -

DCI/DDCI  
6/9/75